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# WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT

## R E P O R T

of the Medical Officer of Health on the  
Health and Sanitary Condition of  
the Westbury Urban District  
for the Year

1 9 4 5

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Westbury Urban District Council.

I beg to present my Annual Report for  
1945 on the Health and Sanitary  
Condition of your District.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area - 3,636 acres.

Population 1931 - 4034. 1945 (estimated)  
4663.

Number of inhabited houses - 1,371.

Rateable Value - £25,131.

Product of a Penny Rate under Rating and  
Valuation Act 1925 - £102. 2. 1.

Chief occupation of the inhabitants -  
Clothworkers, Glovers, Railway Employees,  
Cheese Factory Workers and Agricultural  
Labourers.

### EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

#### BIRTHS.

Live Births Male 36, Female 35. Total 71.

Still births - Nil

Legitimate - Male 32, Female 33. " 65.

Illegitimate - Male 4, Female 2. " 6.



Birth Rate - 15.2 per 1000  
Birth rate for England & Wales - 16.1 per 1000

DEATHS

All Causes - Male 25, Female 28, Total 53.  
Death Rate - 11.3 per 1000.  
Death Rate for England & Wales 11.4 per 1000.  
Number of Women dying in or in consequence  
of childbirth - Nil.  
Deaths of Infants under 1 year -  
Male 2, legitimate.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Measles	96				
Scarlet Fever	4				
Pneumonia	1				
Whooping Cough	1				
Tuberculosis.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
		M. F.		M. F.	
20 years					1
30-35 "		1		1	
40-50 "		3			

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Nursing:- There is one certified Midwife who also undertakes General Nursing.  
Infant Welfare Clinic:- A start has also been made with an Infant Welfare Clinic which meets 1st. and 3rd. Mondays each month. It started in the Laverton Institute, but owing to the room being required for public offices, it has now been removed to the School Room of the Upper Congregational Chapel. Between 30 & 40 Infants attend each session.  
Tubercular Clinic:- Trowbridge, Wednesdays. 10-1 by C.T.O.  
Orthopaedic Clinic:- Trowbridge, Fridays, 10-1

Venereal Clinic:- Trowbridge.

Hospitals:- Tuberculosis: Winsley  
Sanatorium and Hartham, Salisbury.

Isolation Hospital:- Trowbridge.

Small Pox:- Swindon.

Westbury & District Hospital:- 20 beds.

Prideaux Hospital.

LABORATORY WORK. Arrangements are made with the Salisbury Infirmary Pathological Department for Pathological work and Bacterial Examinations for cases of suspected Tuberculosis, Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases - Trowbridge Isolation Hospital.

Non-infectious cases and Accident cases - Westbury Hospital Ambulance.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE. Adoptive Acts:-

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Act, 1925.

Byelaws.

Buildings (Revised 1939).

New Streets (Revised 1939).

Nuisances.

Cleansing of Footways, Ashpits, Privies,

Slaughterhouses. etc.

Common Lodging Houses.

NOTICES, INSPECTIONS etc.

During the year the following notices and inspections have been carried out in connection with Public Health Nuisances, housing repairs etc.



Inspection re Housing repairs etc.	15
Inspections re complaints etc.	45
Re-inspections re execution of work	79
Informal notices served	60
Work carried out as a result of informal notices	52
Statutory notices served	8
Work executed under Statutory notices	8
Statutory notice served for work under Milk & Dairies Order	1
Conversion of Pail Closets	1
Statutory notices served for conversion Pail Closets	4
Informal notices re Sanitary Accommodation - Factory Premises	2
Work carried out on Sanitary Accommodation Factory Premises as result of informal notice	2
Inspection and Re-inspections Sanitary Accommodation Factory Premises	9

MEAT & FOOD INSPECTION. Inspections were made during the year of tinned foods and other items and condemnation notes issued as and where necessary.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT. Arrangements were made during the year to share with the Warminster U.D.C. and Warminster & Westbury R.D.C. the services of a rodent operator, and during the year survey of the area has been carried out and work of rat destruction carried out where necessary. This work has included treatments of the Council's Refuse Disposal Pit and Sewage Works.

WATER SUPPLY. Work of sinking a 12" internal diameter borehole at Wellhead Springs to a depth of 95ft. 6ins. was executed in May and June of this year and test pumping was carried



at for a continuous period of 7 days at a rate of 20,500 gallons per hour. Samples obtained during the test pumping were satisfactory on analysis. A new submersible electrically driven pump as manufactured by Hayward Tyler & Co. was fitted in this bore-hole during December and was brought into use for public supply on December 21st. 1945.

Supply of water over the year on a 24 hour basis was maintained during the year except for a short period during the later part of October when due to the low water level in the well, the general distribution of water had to be cut off during the hours from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. on 8 nights. There was heavy rain all from the 20th. October onwards and this gave a recovery to the well, and on and after the 27th. October a 24 hour supply was re-introduced and maintained.

Water samples from the well were taken for analysis during the year with satisfactory results.

SCAVENGING. A weekly collection of house refuse and salvage continued during the year. The amount of salvage collected showing a decline.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male	Female
All Causes	25	28
Whooping Cough	1	
Tubercle of Respiratory system		1
Influenza	1	
Cancer of Oesophagus	1	
"    "    Uterus		1
"    "    Stomach	3	1
"    "    Breast		3
"    "    other sites	2	3

	Male	Female
Intra cranial vascular lesions	2	2
Heart disease	8	7
Other diseases of circulatory system (not pneumonia or bronchitis)	1	2
Respiratory diseases	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach	1	
Digestive diseases (not appendicitis)		1
Nephritis		1
Congenital Malformation	1	1
Violent causes	1	1
Other causes	2	3

I have the honour to be  
Your obedient Servant,

E. T. SHORLAND.



